

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES, IL
GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2013, 7:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Chairman Stellato, Aldr. Monken, Aldr. Carrignan, Aldr. Payleitner, Aldr. Turner, Aldr. Rogina, Aldr. Martin, Aldr. Krieger, Aldr. Bessner, Aldr. Lewis

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Brian Townsend, City Administrator; Donald DeWitte, Mayor; Mark Koenen, Director of Public Works; James Bernahl, Public Works Engineering Manager; John Lamb, Environmental Services Manager; Peter Suhr, Public Services Manager; Tom Bruhl Electric Services Manager; Dave Kintz, Deputy Police Chief; Joseph Schelstreet, Acting Fire Chief

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

K. Dobbs:

Stellato: Present
Monken: Present
Carrignan: Present
Payleitner: Present
Turner: Present
Rogina: Present
Martin: Present
Krieger: Present
Bessner: Present
Lewis: Present

3.a. Electric Reliability Report – Information only.

Information only.

3.b. EAB Control Efforts – Information only.

Information only.

4.a Recommendation to approve street and parking lot closures and use of amplification equipment for the 2013 Fox Valley Marathon.

Deputy Chief Kintz presented. This is a recommendation for street and parking lot closures and use of amplification equipment for the 2013 Fox Valley Marathon. Last year the coordination with this group was great and we had no issues from a Police Department standpoint.

Unless there are any questions, Staff recommends approval of this event.

Aldr. Martin: I have one problem with it and that is the amplification at 6:15 a.m. Sunday morning.

Officer Kintz: We talked with the organization and they are willing to work with us for the morning event. Last year the only call Police received for sound problems was on North 12th Avenue. They have to have the amplification for the announcements, but they can tone it down for the start of the race and have the fanfare at the end of the race.

Aldr. Krieger: Can we make it 7:00 a.m.?

Officer Kintz: The race begins at 7:00 a.m., so it would be difficult for them to do that, but they will lower the volume on the amplification system.

Aldr. Martin: Who will be monitoring that for us?

Officer Kintz: Commander Mahan will be coordinating the event.

Aldr. Martin: What volume do you plan on keeping it at?

Officer Kintz: Do you have any recommendations? Was there a specific complaint? Was it the music or just the announcements?

Aldr. Martin: Any amplification prior to 7:00 a.m. is a problem. I do have a problem with 7:00 a.m., but given this is a major event, we can give a little bit.

Chairman Stellato: So the agreement is you are going to watch the volume 45 minutes before the race starts.

Officer Kintz: We'll talk to them to make sure the volume is down so only the runners at that point can hear and do our best to monitor that. Unfortunately the event person isn't here, but I do know they need that to gear up the runners and get them into their stages, I think there are three different runs.

No further discussion.

Chairman Stellato: Please call a roll.

K. Dobbs:

Monken: Yes

Carrignan: Yes

Payleitner: Yes

Turner: Yes

Rogina: Yes

Martin: Yes

Krieger: No

Bessner: Yes

Lewis: Yes

Motioned by Aldr. Monken, seconded by Aldr. Rogina. **Motion carried.**

4.b. Recommendation to approve street and parking lot closures and use of amplification equipment for Double-K car show.

Deputy Chief Kintz presented: This request is for parking lot, street closures and amplification for a Double K Car Show on April 20, 2013. This is the same group that does the car show at Rookies. There are no costs to the Police Department but there is a small cost for Public Works that is being paid for by the event sponsors. They are here if you have specific questions.

Aldr. Krieger: I understand this is in connection with a wedding. Is this a St. Charles couple?

Our names are Dina Wells and Judd Nilles.

Aldr. Krieger: Are you from St. Charles?

Ms. Wells: Yes. We live in St. Charles and have been here for over 20 years.

Aldr. Martin: What is your address?

Ms. Wells: Our address is 6 N 772 Tuscola Avenue, St. Charles.

Aldr. Krieger: That's not St. Charles. People are constantly complaining about the number of street closures we have Downtown, so I don't know why we would do this.

Ms. Wells: We did speak with all the business owners along South Riverside as well as BMO Harris Bank. I also spoke with Ann Smith today. All the businesses along Riverside are more than happy to let us move forward with this event. It is our wedding day, and we are Shelby Mustang enthusiasts. We have decided to have a Mustang themed wedding and we have many friends from all around the country who would like

to be part of the ceremony. Our friend, Karey, from Double K Productions wanted to put on a car show/cruise night for us as a wedding gift. We have taken measures and completed the paperwork to comply with this event and supplying the City with Certificates of Insurance.

Aldr. Martin: Your request asks for amplification. Can you elaborate on that, please?

Ms. Wells: When Double K Productions puts on their cruise nights, they have a small trailer that has some speakers and they play oldies tunes. It will be low volume. If we have to take out a permit for the amplification, we would be glad to do so.

Aldr. Martin: What are specific times? I see approximately 3:00 to 10:00 pm. Can we get more detail?

Ms. Wells: The ceremony is taking place at Baker Memorial Church at 3:30 p.m. We anticipate the ceremony to last approximately 45 minutes. At that time, we anticipate all the cars participating in a drive through of St. Charles and then start staging on South Riverside between 4:30 and 5:00, as the reception is going to begin at 5:30 p.m. The reception is at River Rock House, but the car show event will end when it gets dark, probably around 8:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Don Kautz from Double K Productions will be running the actual car show. We will be working with the City as far as barricades, and we will be paying for the barricade set-up as well. Once the car show is completed, Don Kautz will be staging the cars out of the street so the street will be open again. As far as emergency vehicles, there will be more than ample space for them to enter and exit if needed.

Aldr. Lewis: First of all, congratulations! I want to make your day happy, but I have a few concerns. You are closing the street down because you are having a car show, or because your guests are going to be arriving in their cars and they need a place to park?

Ms. Wells: There are two separate things we have requested on our application. The first is parking for our guests in the rear parking lot of River Rock House. I already spoke with Ann Fiori, President of BMO Harris Bank. They own that parking lot and Ann said they give their blessing completely. She would be glad to talk to the City if you would like to contact her. I just talked with her today and she said we are welcome to have that parking lot for our guests for the reception. As far as South Riverside Avenue, that would be for the Mustangs for the car show.

Aldr. Lewis: If someone is Downtown enjoying the evening, are they welcome to walk through?

Ms. Wells: Absolutely. It's open to everyone. All the businesses are looking forward to the patronage.

Aldr. Lewis: And there will be no alcohol brought outside?

Ms. Wells: Absolutely no alcohol, no food, no merchandise. It's just a cruise night/car show. All festivities will be inside River Rock House. There will be security at the facility who will mandate compliance of all rules. We also have extra security as well. We want everyone to enjoy themselves and be safe. In fact, we have a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Express and we have made accommodations for free shuttles to transport people from the reception to the hotel so everyone can enjoy themselves and get home safely. We welcome all cars to join the car show as well.

Aldr. Lewis: This question is to the Committee - is this setting some precedence? Have we done this in the past?

Chairman Stellato: We can address that later.

Aldr. Rogina: Officer Kintz, would you recommend this if there were no car show?

Officer Kintz: The distinction is that this is a car show and it is open to the public. This will be run very similar to the other car shows we have Downtown. We don't have to provide any extra staffing from a Police Department standpoint. Again, the Public Works costs are being born by the applicant.

Aldr. Carrignan: My concern is a private wedding party and public streets. If someone is going to have a block party, that is a public event. Tying it with car show, I find unique, but one of the things I'm looking at is that Rt. 64 is our main access through town, and we are blocking off access to Rt. 64 from the south. The map we've been provided shows First Avenue by Riverside blocked off, but not Walnut. My question is; why can't we block off Walnut Street and the parking lot, and leave Riverside open?

Ms. Wells: We did talk about using the bank parking lot and Walnut in front of River Rock House as an alternate plan. We were hoping to have all of Riverside because we are anticipating quite a few cars for this event and we don't want to turn anyone away.

Aldr. Carrignan: What time do you anticipate opening Riverside?

Ms. Wells: Approximately 8:30 to 9:00 p.m.; as soon as it gets dark.

Aldr. Martin: Is there an event at the Arcada that night? Did you check with Onesti?

Ms. Wells: We have a blessing from Onesti, we have a blessing from Starbucks, Steve from House Pub, the gentlemen from the candy store, as well as BMO Harris Bank and Smitty's.

Aldr. Payleitner: I'm reading the Partnership recommendation which was to use the bank parking lot instead of the whole street. Did you read the recommendation from the Partnership?

Ms. Wells: I don't believe I received a copy of that.

Aldr. Payleitner: This recommendation is from a gentleman who speaks for the businesses and it's in print, rather than just hearsay. I'm looking at this and I see the BMO parking lot and I'm wondering how that doesn't offer you more space for the cars than the street? It looks to me like you'd be better off with the bank parking lot than the closed street.

Ms. Wells: We are expecting approximately 100 cars for this event so that alone will not accommodate.

Aldr. Carrignan: An important issue that we need an answer to is if there is something going on at the Arcada that night. If you do have the parking lot and you can look at Walnut that would be better.

Ms. Wells: It is my understanding as far as the Arcada goes, when they do their loading and unloading for shows, they normally come in off the Walnut Avenue side of the building; it is my understanding they don't normally use Riverside.

Aldr. Payleitner: The clientele do, and that's what we're concerned with.

Aldr. Carrignan: A couple critical questions; is there anything planned at the Arcada that night? If there isn't, then using the bank parking lot and Walnut would suffice, and leave Riverside open. The issue is Walnut isn't used that much there and Riverside is used regularly and it ties into Rt. 64; that's my concern. I'm also concerned about the precedent.

Officer Kintz: In the memo from the Partnership, if they follow the closures as recommended, they are talking about 50 parking spaces between the street and the parking lot. If they are expecting 100 cars, they won't fit into that space, and that is the reason for the request of the entire closure of the road.

Aldr. Payleitner: You are going to get 100 cars in that spot?

Mr. Nilles: We are looking at using the street and the parking lot and getting 100 cars in it. We were already going to use the BMO parking lot and the street in front of River Rock House for the Mustangs and because we don't turn any cars away, we were going to put cars in the parking lot. Double K Productions does this once a week Downtown, as well as at the bars.

Aldr. Payleitner: This street has been closed off before?

Mr. Nilles: Every Tuesday night. We are just starting a little earlier on a Saturday night. All the business owners have expressed that we would probably bring them a lot of business from the walking traffic.

My name is Don Kautz, I represent Double K Productions, I live in South Elgin: As you know, we did the show last year for River Fest by the Filling Station, and every Monday night we do a cruise night at Rookies on IL Rt. 64. From a parking standpoint, while we are asking for closure of the street, but we are not asking to fill the street. We will park the cars along the curbs and leave the car lanes open so if an emergency vehicle has to get in, there will be a clear path.

Chairman Stellato: It sounds like there might be some research that needs to happen. If you ask for a vote tonight, it's at your risk, but if you want to continue for another week and come back in front of us after further discussion, that's your choice as well.

Ms. Wells: We understand that March 4 is the final decision meeting. I'll be more than happy to speak with Mr. Onesti and find out if they have an event that night; to my knowledge they do not.

Chairman Stellato: Procedurally we can take a vote tonight and the final vote would come on March 4 as long as everyone understands that. We won't have time to fit another Committee meeting in before then.

Ms. Wells: This is Jeff Sands with River Rock House and he has spoken with Mr. Onesti.

Jeff Sands: I talked to Onesti before and he said he didn't have a big act that night, it's kind of a smaller show, so he was okay with it. He was also willing to put their event on the marquee and help with the event.

Aldr. Krieger: There is a parking deck where the guests could park and the other car shows when they have closed the street have been on First Street which isn't used nearly as much. I would be in favor of Walnut and the Harris lot and leave Riverside open.

Mr. Nilles: Every Tuesday they close down Riverside for a car show.

Aldr. Krieger: No.

Mr. Kautz: Yes, we do shut it down every Tuesday all summer, from one side of the river to the other.

Aldr. Carrigan: But Tuesday doesn't have the same amount of foot traffic as a weekend. We are a destination on weekends and blocking that much is significantly different than on a Tuesday.

Aldr. Lewis: I think we have two different issues and in fairness to this couple who is planning their wedding, to wait until the last minute to find out if they can do what they want to do is not fair to them. On the other hand, we need to decide if we are going to set a precedent as to whether we are going to close City streets for private functions. I think that is the discussion that needs to be had, and so to tell them to go back and do more

research and come back to us in a month only for us to say we don't think it's a good idea is not fair to them.

Aldr. Payleitner: I also don't think it's fair that they didn't see the Partnership recommendation.

Ms. Wells: All of their correspondence has been set to us via e-mail. Ms. Shorts has forwarded items to us, as well as the City of St. Charles. If I had received that, I would have replied to it immediately. But again, this is a one-time event.

Aldr. Lewis: It's a one-time event for you, but there might be others asking and that's what we have to decide.

Ms. Wells: Would there be a compromise?

Mr. Nilles: What if we use the street, just not as late. Cut the car show early and move the barricades back to Walnut and kept the cars in front of the Rock House and in the parking lot and open up Walnut for the theater.

Aldr. Carrignan: Do you expect to use the parking deck behind The Office at all?

Mr. Nilles: We were going to try to park everyone behind The Rock House.

Ms. Wells: The bank said they own that parking lot and we are more than welcome to have full use of that parking lot as well.

Mr. Nilles: So we can close that off as well.

Ms. Wells: We anticipate 200 guests for the reception so there is more than adequate parking because there will not be 200 individual cars, a lot of them are families that come together.

Mr. Nilles: We also have places for the car trailers to park off site out of Downtown. There is a large car show in Herman, MO, and there will be a lot of people traveling through here on their way to the show in MO. This is going to bring a lot of people to town, it's going to fill up a lot of hotel rooms and this is really is a public event. Our reception is a private event, but the car show itself is open to everyone; it will be on the internet on the car shows websites. It will be just like one of your cruise nights. The wedding is private, car show is public.

Officer Kintz: If I may, the Police Department would prefer to have a single closing time and a single opening time as opposed to scaling back and having two separate closing times.

Aldr. Rogina: To Maureen's point; does anyone on the Council think we are setting precedence? I see a public event combined with a private ceremony; I'm not sure myself if we are setting precedence, but I wonder if anyone thinks we are?

Aldr. Carrignan: My perception of this argument is that this this discussion is about a car show. The wedding is ancillary. If we set a specific start and end time, say 3:30 to 8:30 p.m., for the car show, I'm okay with that.

Ms. Wells: If you are recommending 3:30 to 8:30 p.m., we can do that.

Aldr. Carrignan: With that, I make a motion for approval for closure of Riverside Drive from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Aldr. Monken: Second.

Aldr. Payleitner: We have put in a place a Downtown St. Charles Partnership Event Review Committee and this is their inaugural event and we are throwing it away. The client hasn't even seen their recommendation and I think that is a bad precedent. I don't see that what the Partnership is recommending is that outrageous.

Aldr. Turner: I really don't know that we are setting precedence because we have closed streets before and we are talking about closing the street for a car show and we've already done that Downtown. You can argue between traffic on First and traffic on Riverside, but we've already done that, so I don't think there is precedence here. I think 3:30 to 8:30 p.m. is reasonable and I don't have any problem with it.

Aldr. Rogina: I want to ask Aldr. Payleitner if she is in a sense trying to amend the motion to incorporate the Downtown Partnership's recommendation?

Aldr. Payleitner: Yes.

Aldr. Rogina: And the Downtown Partnership's recommendation is not Aldr. Carrignan's motion? Correct?

Aldr. Payleitner: Yes. I would like to amend it to have the closure of Riverside between Walnut and Illinois, NOT between Rt. 64 and Illinois, which is the recommendation of the Partnership.

Aldr. Krieger: Plus it says that the Harris Bank parking lot would be inaccessible anyway.

Aldr. Martin: In the motion, I want to know specifically what streets and the times, so there is no question at a later time.

Officer Kintz: If I can clarify; in the Partnership memo, the event planners were not aware as to whether they could get the Harris lot at the time the memo was written.

There are some subjective items in the memo, but Ms. Wells just received approval on the Harris Bank lot today. I hope that helps clarify.

Aldr. Bessner: You had suggested logistically that the car show would start at 5:00 or 5:30 pm, so if we are looking to close the street at 3:30, does that mean the car show will actually start at 3:30?

Ms. Wells: The City will need to set up barricades, that's the reason for 3:30, but the cars will start arriving at approximately 4:30, because we are planning on doing the drive through town.

Aldr. Lewis: How many cars do you think that will be?

Mr. Nilles: There will only be a few cars in the parade. We won't have 100 cars travelling through town. They will be on the main roads, respecting the law.

Aldr. Bessner: If we don't need to close it at 3:30, I'd rather make it 4:30.

Officer Kintz: The Police Department will need to have time to clear out cars from that area, so we will need lead time.

Aldr. Bessner: What time do you think that will be, then?

Officer Kintz: If they plan on arriving at 4:30, the motion at 3:00 should give us plenty of time.

Aldr. Lewis: This 100 car parade through town, are there any problems with that?

Officer Kintz: I anticipate they would follow the traffic laws and if they get stopped by a signal, they get stopped by a signal. This is not an organized drive where we control intersections. The Police Department is not part of this.

Chairman Stellato: The motion was to close Riverside between Illinois and Main Street between 3:30 to 8:30 for the Double K Car Show.

Aldr. Carrignan: If Chief needs 3:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m, I'll amend that.

Chairman Stellato: No matter what vote is taken tonight, we'll be at Council a week from tonight so if there is anything that changes or anything we have to add, whether it passes or not, it will be on the agenda either way.

Aldr. Rogina: If there is a change of heart, any of the businesses can come here and argue against it.

Chairman Stellato: I assume the Partnership will be contacted as per Aldr. Payleitner's suggestion to make sure they are okay with the decision? If they want to have any further input, they would have it by then.

Aldr. Martin: This is very strange to say the least and I hope it doesn't happen again, but I'm going to support it.

Aldr. Carrignan: The issue is that this is a car show and there happens to be a wedding going on also. That has nothing to do with this Committee; however, the car show and closure of the street, does. There has been precedent, we do it regularly. The fact that it is on Saturday night is different but it sounds like you are bringing high-end cars to town, it brings additional revenue to town, so again, the motion has been made.

Chairman Stellato: Kristi, please call a roll.

K. Dobbs:

Monken: Yes

Carrignan: Yes

Payleitner: No

Turner: Yes

Rogina: Yes

Martin: Yes

Krieger: No

Bessner: Yes

Lewis: Yes

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Carrignan, seconded by Aldr. Monken. **Motion carried.**

4.c. Recommendation to approve a class E-1 liquor license for the Geneva Chamber of Commerce "Sixty Men Who Can Cook" at the Kane County Fairgrounds.

Deputy Chief Kintz presented. This is a recommendation to approve a Class E-1 Liquor License. This is a fundraiser for the Geneva of Chamber of Commerce that is held at the Kane County Fairgrounds. This is their fifth annual event and we have not had any issues with this from the Police Department standpoint. They will be issuing wristbands to those 21 and over, and they have commented that the amount of alcohol they sell is reduced because of the short time frame, so the concentration is more on the food than the alcohol.

K. Dobbs:

Monken: Yes

Carrignan: Yes

Payleitner: Yes

Turner: Yes

Rogina: Yes

Martin: No

Krieger: No

Bessner: Yes

Lewis: Yes

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Carrignan, seconded by Aldr. Rogina. **Motion carried.**

4.d. Discussion regarding Madison Avenue traffic.

Deputy Chief Kintz presented. This is to bring you up to speed on what we have for Madison Avenue. You have the numbers in front of you that shows the pre-construction counts and speeds in the 1100 block. The average speed for eastbound traffic is 28 and 32 for westbound traffic. The average daily count of cars is 4,000 cars per day, but the average speed is 25 to 27 mph. The one set of numbers you don't have is on January 30 when we had our speed box up; the volume for westbound traffic on the 1500 block was 2,300 cars westbound and the average speed 25 mph, so it's staying consistent. With construction starting again in March, we will be on the side street watching for traffic.

Chairman Stellato: So the speed seems to be less, but the volume is up. We had some discussion at the last Government Services Meeting with resident Steve Munz and talked about possibly re-engineering the road as it meets Tyler Road to force people to slow down as they come off a higher rate of speed. Mark, I like the way your suggestion looks, but I have no idea how much it costs. Before we go to other questions, my question is can we research how much this would cost? Please get a cost on the plastic poles as well.

Mr. Koenen: We can do a cost estimate on both alternatives.

Aldr. Krieger: I see the average number of cars has gone up, but the speed has gone down, so I don't know what more we can do except something like this. I do know from being on Madison that they tend to come around the corner at a high rate of speed and sometimes go over the center line, so for that reason, I like the posts in the road.

Aldr. Payleitner: How far are we going to go with this?

Chairman Stellato: I don't know. We had a request from neighbors to look at it and we are just doing our due diligence to find out. It would be like any other street in anyone else's neighborhood. If you start having calls and concerns, you have to look into it.

Aldr. Carrignan: I agree with looking into it, but I wonder if we are looking at the right time. To your point, we are going to have another season of construction traffic going

through there. Having a strong police presence during that time is the best deterrent, and then we should do a count again after Main Street is complete; that would be a more realistic and reasonable number. I think we should have a strong physical police presence through the summer and then look at the real numbers as we finish construction on Rt. 64.

Chairman Stellato: So the goals are increased enforcement, get some estimates for the pinch points and see how this continues to go.

Officer Kintz: This is a current selected enforcement site and we are monitoring the activity on a regular basis.

Mr. Munz: Steve Munz, 1562 Madison Avenue. I spoke with you about this last month and the numbers I had were based on a study done in fall 2010 when westbound traffic showed 1,173 cars - which is half of what Chief is showing now, so obviously traffic has gone up significantly since the construction on Rt. 64. Before the construction on Rt. 64 I did come to this Committee regarding this exact same situation, when traffic was about half of what it is right now. I was told by members of this Committee that something would be done before construction took place, so the very thing that is happening right now would not happen as it stands right now; that Madison Avenue would not be a detour, would not be a collector for the traffic that wants to avoid Rt. 64.

Now I have a seven year old and a four year old and 4,000 cars going down that street seems to be a lot of cars. I'm not sure how the traffic study was done, but if it was done by the sign that shows what your speed is, I think that sign is doing a great job of telling people how fast they are going once they hit that corner. Now, if that sign were to be replaced by a stop sign to have those people slow down before they start to gain speed, I think that would be great. If we can put one at Independence and put one at either 10th, 11th or 12th coming down from 7th the other way, I think it's a cheaper alternative than pinching the road, which may or may not do anything to begin with. The City put the islands in assuming they were going to slow traffic and they do nothing.

I've been a resident for eight years and this has been an ongoing, aggravating situation to say the least and I don't feel like I'm getting anywhere.

Aldr. Carrignan: Is Madison not a collector street?

Officer Kintz: Yes, I believe Madison is designated as a collector.

Aldr. Carrignan: The road is a collector street. Do you show the average speed during 2010?

Mr. Munz: I have the westbound average speed as 32 mph.

Aldr. Carrignan: So we've just had a 7 mph improvement.

Mr. Munz: If the flashing sign is what is counting the speed, I'm not sure.

Officer Kintz: When we did the count, the display was turned off, so all motorists saw was a blank box recording the speeds; motorists were not getting feedback telling them to slow down. It's now been turned on to provide feedback to slow people down.

Aldr. Carrignan: So, in this period of time, we've increased traffic and slowed speed down. It is a collector street. It's no different that Prairie or Foxfield; those are also collector streets. The idea is to move traffic through, and to be able to drop the average speed 7 mph, to use your argument, is a pretty big percentage. It sounds like our Police Department is doing their job in reducing traffic speed on Madison.

Mr. Munz: 4,000 cars on my street is a lot. Prairie is a 35 mph street and Madison is 25.

Aldr. Payleitner: Prairie is 30 mph.

Aldr. Carrignan: Foxfield is also 25 mph. Again, it seems like we have accomplished the goal WITH a higher density of traffic and my perception is that the police have a presence – they are being seen. Secondly, when the box measured, it measured at 25 with the display off. We are making progress. Again, to use your argument, that 7 mph is a large percentage.

Mr. Munz: I agree.

Aldr. Carrignan: So motorists are going the speed limit and more cars are travelling through there. Now, that's a temporary function and we all know why.

Mr. Munz: I'm not sure it's going to be temporary once people realize they can use it. We are talking about more than twice the amount of cars avoiding Rt. 64. Once they find that short cut, I don't think they are going to stop using it.

Aldr. Carrignan: I disagree. There will be five lanes on Rt. 64 with timed signals to move traffic through town very efficiently and I think the long way to go is to hit 3 or 4 stop signs on Madison.

Mr. Munz: But there aren't 3 or 4 stop signs on Madison; there is one.

Aldr. Carrignan: I think we need to get on the other side of the construction, but during that time, have a strong police vigilance, which the Chief is already doing and keep speed limits where they are. It's within the law.

Chairman Stellato: Let's have this again next month if you can have some numbers for us and also let us know how enforcement is going.

No further discussion.

5.a. Recommendation to approve an Ordinance Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Personal Property Owned by the City of St. Charles (Flashlights).

Acting Fire Chief Joe Schelstreet presented. The Foreign Fire Insurance Board recently allocated money to replace all of the hand held flashlights that the fire fighters use. We would like to obtain permission to declare the current flashlights surplus and donate them to the Fox Valley Career Academy; we have an ongoing relationship with them. Both East and North High Schools participate in the Academy. We are estimating the total value of the flashlights and chargers at \$560.

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Carrignan, seconded by Aldr. Rogina. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**

6.a. Recommendation to approve a Franchise Agreement between the City of St. Charles and Comcast.

Brian Townsend presented. I'm here this evening to present a recommendation that the City enter into a Franchise Agreement with Comcast to allow that company to continue to provide video, internet and phone service to the residents of our community. Those of you on the Council in 2008 may recall there was a five year agreement approved at that time. That agreement will expire March 1, so we've had discussions with Comcast and have negotiated a successor agreement which is included in your packet this evening. There is also a summary of the key points included on the agenda item Executive Summary. This is another five year agreement; we are proposing it begin on or about March 4 when City Council may consider this matter and give final approval.

The other terms essentially will remain the same. One thing that is important to mention is that we do have competition for cable, internet and phone service in our community. Comcast obviously provides those three services; AT&T also provides those three services. In 2007 there was a state law passed that allowed companies to bypass local communities and seek authorization to provide those services through the State of Illinois and the Illinois Commerce Commission. To Comcast's credit, they have maintained that they believe approaching and working with local communities is the right way to go and so that is the spirit in which this agreement was negotiated. On the other hand, AT&T has taken advantage of the statewide authorization and that is why you have not approved or authorized a local franchise agreement for that company to provide service for the City of St. Charles.

With that explanation, I'll pause and take any questions you might have.

Aldr. Lewis: I think number four in the agreement is a good idea - to broadcast City events and meetings; why don't we do that?

Mr. Townsend: I don't know that I have an answer to that question. I don't think there has been a demand for it. In all the surveys or outreach that we've done with the residents, they have never really expressed a desire for the City to provide that. This is something that was in the prior agreement and this is something we are maintaining as a contingency. The provision in the agreement would only allow us to use the franchise to obtain funding for capital improvement. We would still have to work out who's going to operate the equipment, who would maintain it, all of those things. It is not free; there are cost obligations associated with it.

Aldr. Lewis: The fee would be put on the taxpayers bill; they are the ones who would pay for that service?

Mr. Townsend: Correct.

Aldr. Rogina: First of all, with respect to the surveys; have we ever asked the question specifically on the survey "would you like City Council meetings broadcast"?

Mr. Townsend: No.

Aldr. Rogina: I would want to see that put in the citizen's survey before we did anything. Geneva and Batavia broadcast their City Council meetings, correct?

Mr. Townsend: I don't live in Geneva or Batavia so I can't answer that.

Chairman Stellato: In Batavia they have a channel called BATV which broadcasts and you can get Geneva on public Comcast; I believe it's channel 10 in this area.

Aldr. Rogina: Would a member of the public be able to see City Council meetings if they had another provider? Would the same fee be implemented by other providers?

Mr. Townsend: We haven't explored it in any detail. My understanding is that AT&T would work with us to provide that, but there is no mechanism for us to collect the fee. We have no connection with DirecTv so there would be no way for that programming to make it to those customers. If this is something that Committee wants Staff to explore further, we can certainly do that, but we are not prepared to discuss that tonight.

Aldr. Rogina: I think the first step would be to ask on our next City survey whether the community would be interested. I don't think we should do anything until the community tells us they want it.

Aldr. Payleitner: A while ago there was an issue with Carroll Towers and Comcast. Do you know if that's been resolved?

Mr. Townsend: I don't know if it's been resolved and I don't know if it was really an issue with Comcast. It was more of an issue with the owners and management of that building. Staff did some follow-up with Comcast, we also had communication with

AT&T about that particular issue. At that time, they were looking for relief of the amount they had to pay and there were several alternatives presented for the consideration of the building ownership and building management, and it's my understanding they elected not to pursue any of those options. It wasn't something that Comcast or the City was in control of. It was not an issue we would resolve; it required action on the part of the building owners and they chose not to do so.

Aldr. Carrignan: AT&T does not pay the City franchise fee?

Mr. Townsend: It's not a franchise fee, but they do pay a 5% amount similar to what Comcast does, so there is a level playing field from that perspective.

Aldr. Carrignan: Is five years too long? The reason I ask is technology changes with everything we do.

Mr. Townsend: I have never seen anything less than five years done, unless you are doing a short term extension while negotiations are taking place. I think as we engage in this process, Comcast was interested in a longer time period; at one time franchise agreements typically were 15 years. I think five years is reasonable. I don't know that things are going to change that much in that period of time. In 2008 we were standing here saying there could be a lot of changes in the next few years and in reality, there has been a lot of change in technology, but not as it impacts the local franchise agreement or how we regulate Comcast or the compensation they provide us to provide service to our community.

Aldr. Carrignan: Is there a sales tax on every movie shown on Comcast?

Mr. Townsend: No.

Aldr. Bessner: How many residents use Comcast? Do you know the percentage?

Mr. Townsend: I really don't know. I can certainly research it and get back to you with that information.

Aldr. Bessner: I'm not going to say that I'm for or against having the meetings shown, but I think from what I've seen on Geneva's channel, there is a lot of information on events that might be helpful.

Mr. Townsend: Let me clarify one thing about that channel. The channel you see on our cable system is actually a shared channel between Geneva and St. Charles. If we want to put information on that channel, we have a cooperative relationship with the City of Geneva where we can send them videos or information and they will take the initiative to put it on the channel. It's just not a communication method that we really had a lot of outcry for so we've never employed it as heavily as the other communities have. Not to say we can't, but with changes in technology people are more interested in seeing things

on our website and through e-mail, rather than having to tune in to a specific channel on their television and wait for the information to scroll through.

Aldr. Rogina: I would like to amend the recommendation; I would like to direct staff to include that question in the next survey as to their interest in televising City Council meetings.

Aldr. Martin: I second the amendment.

Chairman Stellato: Kristi, please call a roll.

K. Dobbs:

Monken: Yes

Carrignan: Yes

Payleitner: Yes

Turner: Yes

Rogina: Yes

Martin: Yes

Krieger: Yes

Bessner: Yes

Lewis: Yes

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Rogina, seconded by Aldr. Martin. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**

7.a. Presentation of 2012 Electric Reliability Wrap up.

Tom Bruhl presented. Power Point presentation by Tom Bruhl.

Chairman Stellato: Nice work, Tom.

Aldr. Carrignan: The Electric Department has progressed light years from 2007-2008 to where we are now. Congratulations! You've done a great job, and your leadership here is appreciated!

Mr. Bruhl: Thank you. That is due to the support of this Council; it takes a team.

Aldr. Carrignan: There are, to a degree, things you can't control, such as a storm. What impresses me is that the things you can control have improved on top of that. THAT is the significant measurement. You either stayed the same or got better in every single measurement you had, so that is commendable.

Aldr. Rogina: This City does it right; we don't make any excuses, even for storms. The fact is our reliability is A1.

No further discussion.

7.b. Recommendation to Award Contract for Relamping of the Public Works Garage area.

Tom Bruhl presented. This is a green initiative that Peter Suhr and I worked on. We tried to identify some energy efficiency projects that would both qualify for grant funding and would give us a good return on investment. We asked vendors to provide quotes for turnkey replacement of the garage lights inside the Public Works Facility. We used a RFP because Peter and I are not experts in what the current lighting solutions would be. We wanted to give vendors the opportunity to tell us what they could provide us. We got four vendors to provide quotes, and they actually provided six quotes because they wanted to try different technologies. Twin Supplies, LTD. was selected as the low cost. Completion of the work will pay the City back within three years, which is our threshold for a good return on investment for this type of project. We have two grants; one from Illinois Clean Energy and one from IMEA, so that will be about \$20,000 of the \$24,000 expenses, so this turnkey project will only cost us approximately \$4,000.

Staff recommends approval to award a purchase order to Twin Supplies, LTD. in the amount of \$24,334.25 for a turnkey relamping at the Public Works Facility.

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Carrignan, seconded by Aldr. Monken. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**

7.c. Recommendation to approve Contract with Pomp's Tire Service, Inc.

Peter Suhr presented. Staff is recommending approval to issue an open purchase order with our local tire service, Pomp's Tire Service, Inc. We have purchased tires from Pomp's for many years, historically on a separate purchase order for each order. An open purchase order provides an efficient way to process orders for our Fleet Department as well as our Finance team. We are estimating the overall cost of tires this year on an as needed basis to be approximately \$35,000 at which we are at the \$20,000 mark to date.

This is a budgeted item; tires are supplied to us at a cost equal to the competitive state bid. If there are no questions, staff recommends approval to issue an open purchase order with Pomp's Tire Service.

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Carrignan, seconded by Aldr. Turner. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**

7.d. Recommendation to approve the purchase of a 6 inch Portable Trailer Pump for Emergency Use.

John Lamb presented. This is a request for a trailer pump that is used by our sewer division. We have six of these in the division and we have a program to replace several of them due to their age. Our staff has contacted three vendors to submit quotes, and two of the three vendors submitted the quotes in your packet.

We currently own three Godwin pumps and we have invested a fair amount of money in accessories and we are trying to streamline our process in going with Godwin Pumps so we can keep an inventory of parts.

If there are no questions, Staff recommends waiving the formal bid procedure since we went out for quotes and approve the purchase of a Xylem/Godwin pump at a cost of \$42,180.

Aldr. Carrignan: And this is a budgeted item?

Mr. Lamb: Yes, it is.

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Turner, seconded by Aldr. Bessner. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**

7.e. Recommendation to award Value Operating and Leak Survey Services.

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No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Carrignan, seconded by Aldr. Turner. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**

7.f. Recommendation to approve Contract Extension for Traffic Signal Maintenance.

James Bernahl presented. This is an extension of the Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement we have with Meade Electric. I am bringing this back to you for an additional year extension. The work has been good and Meade has been responsive.

Staff recommends approval of the contract for one more year with Meade Electric, not to exceed \$34,932.

Aldr. Carrignan: Did I read this correctly? After this, all traffic signal maintenance goes to IDOT?

Mr. Bernahl: The maintenance will go to IDOT for the traffic signals on IL Rt. 64.

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Krieger, seconded by Aldr. Turner. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**

7.g. Recommendation to approve revisions to Engineering Design and Inspection Policy Manual and Annual Update.

James Bernahl presented. This is an update on a commitment from staff to bring to Council any modifications that we make to the Engineering Design and Inspection Policy Manual. In your agenda packet there is a list of the items; most of them are formalities. Community Development is updating Title 16, and as such, some of the items listed there are now being included in our manual.

No further discussion.

Motioned by Aldr. Carrignan, seconded by Aldr. Turner. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**

8. Additional Business

Aldr. Payleitner: I have a process question. Despite tonight's vote, I didn't like our dismissal of the Partnership recommendation. This is a new process, so I'm asking how the bride never received, or even knew that this memo dated January 31 existed. I think this would have helped a lot in her planning.

Officer Kintz: I don't know why it never got to her; unfortunately I don't have an answer. She has asked for a copy of it, and we will make sure she gets it in preparation of the Council meeting.

Aldr. Payleitner: I felt bad for her, because it sounds like it could have resolved some issues. But in the process of working with the Partnership, can we figure out how their recommendation can be part of the filing and paperwork that goes to the people requesting an event?

9. Adjournment

Motion by Aldr. Carrignan, seconded by Aldr. Turner. No additional discussion. Approved unanimously by voice vote. **Motion carried.**